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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 10/820,360 | |
| | Filing Date | April 7, 2004 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Melvin Pardue | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3724 | |
| | Examiner Name | Ashley Boyer Dolinger | |
| Total Number of Pages In This Submission | 5 | Attorney Docket Number | 1201-031/ddh |

| ENCLOSURES <i>(check all that apply)</i> | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers <i>(for an Application)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sheets <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group <i>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of PTOL-85B to Accompany Issue Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Patent Copies Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| Remarks -Affidavit of Melvin Pardue | | |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Douglas D. Hancock, Reg. No. 35,889 |
| Signature | <i>Douglas D. Hancock</i> |
| Date | Mar 9, 2005 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION | |
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| Typed or printed name | Douglas D. Hancock |
| Signature | <i>Douglas D. Hancock</i> |
| Date | Mar 9, 2005 |

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|---|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Steve Ingram, Melvin Pardue
Application Number: 10/820,360
Filing Date: April 7, 2004
Title: *Hand Tool Stop Pin*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Affidavit of Melvin Pardue

I, Melvin Pardue, state and declare as follows:

1. I am an inventor named in the above patent application. I make the following statement pursuant to my duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56.
2. I am a knife designer and maker. I have been designing and making knives since 1957, and have had my own company (Pardue Knives) since 1974. I live in Repton, Alabama.
3. More than one year prior to the filing date of the present application, I worked in my shop on designing a stop pin that facilitates adjustment of the position of the blade in the open position. At this time I came up with the idea of a stop pin that has four flattened outer surfaces between two cylindrical outer portions, with each of the flattened surfaces having a slightly different height measured from the center of the stop pin. I did not have any suitable equipment in my shop to manufacture such a stop pin, and therefore filed the four flattened outer surfaces with a hand file. The diameter of the stop pin measured at the cylindrical outer portions was less than the diameter measured at the central flattened surfaces.
4. The central portion of the stop pin with the four flattened surfaces was held between the handle liners, and the cylindrical outer portions were held in bores in the liners. The stop pin was held in place with a set screw hidden under the bolster on the handle. The screw extended through a side wall of the handle, through the liner and into the end of the stop pin. When tightened, the screw drew the shoulder of the stop pin against the inside of the handle liner and prevented the stop pin from rotating.

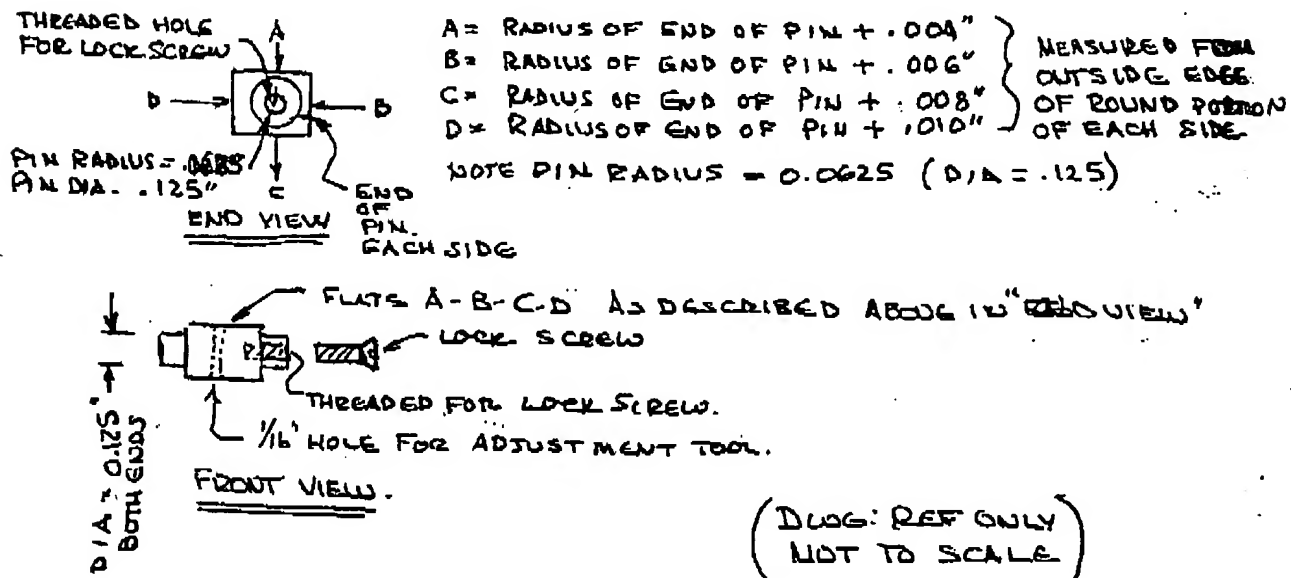
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5. To adjust the stop pin, the bolster was removed and the set screw was loosened. To rotate the stop pin, I drilled a small hole about $1/16$ " of an inch into one of the four flattened surfaces of the pin. I then inserted a smaller rod into the hole and used it to rotate the pin to the desired position. I then retightened the set screw and replaced the bolster.

6. As I recall, I sold two or three knives incorporating the stop pin just described more than one year prior to the filing date of the present application.

7. I do not have any pictures of the stop pin described above, but I have sketched a picture of the stop pin below:



I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. The matters set forth herein are known to me personally, and if called as a witness, I could and would be able to testify competently as to the facts set forth herein.

Executed on this 14th day of February, 2005, at Repton, Alabama.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melvin Pardue
Melvin Pardue